

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED
SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

STAT

COUNTRY China
SUBJECT Economic - Agriculture, land reform
HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper
WHERE PUBLISHED Canton
DATE PUBLISHED 3, 18 Sep 1952
LANGUAGE Chinese

DATE OF INFORMATION 1952

DATE DIST. 3 Nov 1952

NO. OF PAGES 3

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANINGS OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Nan-fang Jih-pao.LAND-REFORM ACTIVITIES IN KWANGTUNG

Summary: The South China Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party passed resolutions to serve as guidance in the collection of surplus grain from landlords in connection with the land-reform program. They include provision for adjustments for those on whom the regular requirement would work a hardship and instruction concerning landlords with business enterprises. The resolutions also deal with classification of peasant families and landlords, families with women who work in the fields, and small landowners who for various reasons rent out land.

A report made by three staff correspondents of the Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao dealing with the problems of peasant classification in connection with land reform points up some of the difficulties that must be faced and overcome. The report, based on experience in P'an-yu Hsien in Kwangtung, discusses cadre self-satisfaction, reluctance of the masses to engage in struggle, and problems involved in arousing and preparing the peasants.

BUREAU RULES ON TREATMENT OF KWANGTUNG LANDLORDS -- Canton, Nan-fang Jih-pao, 18 Sep 52

On 16 September 1952, the South China Bureau of the Central Committee, Chinese Communist Party, passed resolutions concerning treatment of landlords and others in connection with land reform. The following principles are to be observed:

1. In computing the amount of surplus grain to be confiscated from landlords during the land-reform program, the amount of one year's grain rent income should be considered the normal collection for land rented out. For land worked by hired labor, the amount to be required should be the amount that would be considered a normal rent income from that area. For landlords who would experience real hardship in being required to surrender the prescribed

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION		RESTRICTED		DISTRIBUTION									
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB											
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI											

RESTRICTED

STAT

amount, adjustments downward can be made based on the merits of each individual case. In case it appears that nothing can be paid (in the case of small landlords who constitute about 20 percent of the total) complete exemption may be granted. Those who comply promptly after their quota has been set should have no further demands made upon them. Their compliance should be publicized so that a clear line may be drawn between law-abiding and nonlaw-abiding landlords. Recalcitrants should be dealt with strictly and promptly.

2. No more grain shall be demanded of landlords who also have business enterprises than of those with comparable holdings who do not have such enterprises. Local village people may not directly present demands upon landlords for surrender of grain. All levies must be approved by the ch'u authorities and passed by them to the chen or urban-rural liaison office authorities for collection.

3. In the matter of social and economic classification no mistakes should be permitted. In any ch'u landlords may not constitute more than 5 percent of the number of peasants. Wealthy peasants may not constitute more than 3 percent. Hence landlords and wealthy peasants together may not constitute more than 8 percent of the peasants. Any deviation from this norm should receive the careful scrutiny of the hsien and ch'u committees.

In determining, on the basis of the labor force of a family, whether or not to call it a landlord family, women who spend most of their time in field work should be counted as essential workers. Those women who devote less than most of the day to field work, especially in the busy seasons, may not be accounted essential workers. When the field labor of a woman leaves a male worker idle, the family should still be accounted a working peasant family rather than a landlord family. However, if such a family holds an amount of land twice that of the average small landlord in the area, and if some of the income of such a family is from rent or from the exploitation of hired labor the family should be classed as a landlord family.

A hsien norm should be set up for land holding by small landowners who rent out land (1) because they are members of the families of military heroes, soldiers, or other classes favored by law; or (2) because they have an independent business; or (3) have regular nonagricultural employment; or (4) are without labor power of their own. Those in the above classes, though their holdings are the most that is permitted, should not be classed as landlords.

Classification should be based upon production materials "owned or used" rather than upon political considerations. Proper preparation of cadres and people for carrying out the classification program should be provided by means of study classes and propaganda.

LAND REFORM CLASSIFICATION PROBLEMS IN P'AN-YU HSIEN -- Canton, Nan-fang Jih-pao, 3 Sep 52

Study of the problems of peasant classification in connection with land-reform activities in Nan-kang Hsiang of P'an-yu Hsien, Kwangtung, as reported by staff correspondents of the Nan-fang Jih-pao reveals a number of weaknesses and difficulties that constitute a hindrance to the most effective implementation of the program. Some of these are listed below.

1. Many of the cadres were too easily satisfied with incomplete results.
2. The masses were too ready to carry out classification by peaceful methods and avoid the distasteful method of accusation.

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

3. Peasant leaders were found to have varying ideas as to the purpose and method of classification. Some thought classification was only a device used to prevent the turning over of expropriated goods to the landlords again or to the wealthy peasants. Others thought classification could be carried out by the local schoolteacher by himself.

Guidance cadres seeking to improve conditions with respect to carrying out the classification program have given lectures on the need for classification, the standards of classification, clarification of class distinctions, and methods of classification. They stressed the political implications of classification and the importance of being able to recognize enemies, friends, and know oneself. They emphasized the need of struggle in connection with classification in order to rout the enemy. They also emphasized the importance of practice in connection with instruction.

The classification program should begin with family conferences. The purpose of these conferences is to point up and to resolve by discussion the differences within families between the activists with the modern viewpoint and the slow-moving conservatives and follower types. Peasant cadres are usually very ill-informed about this matter. Families need to clear away internal barriers to present a united front to the enemy. When all the families in the community have carried out this program, the accusation and struggle movement becomes a community effort. Progressive members of the families should be instructed in the necessity and techniques of carrying the conservatives with them.

When the families in the various villages have become united, the accusation program can be begun. A leader can be chosen to start the accusations and the others should support him. Finally, everybody should report publicly his own land, equipment, labor force, living conditions, and family composition. The assembly should then separate into small groups for discussion. Afterward the whole assembly should come to a decision on the classification. Middle-class peasants, who often wish to be classified as poor peasants, should be instructed that there is no need for this since there is no quarrel between middle peasants and poor peasants.

Those who before the liberation had engaged in shady occupations, but who have been going straight since the liberation, should be helped to understand their errors. Those who had been bandits temporarily, should confess their faults to clear themselves. After undergoing criticism by the masses they should engage in constructive labor. Those who have been confirmed bandits, but in that activity had not earned the hatred of the masses, should confess their crimes before the assembly, undergo severe public criticism, and present concrete evidence that they have reformed.

The above program is for classification of peasants below the wealthy peasant class. After this is completed, the classification of wealthy peasants and small landowners can be carried out. In the Nan-kang Hsiang this process led to the discovery of a large number of families of the landlord class who had split up their holdings in various ways in order to seek classification among the nonlandlord peasant class. These were compelled to make a true report of their hidden holdings and undergo the condemnation of the masses.

When it came to the struggle against the known landlords it was revealed that landlords had been responsible for the killing and wounding of 196 persons, 655 had died of starvation caused by the landlords, and 2,356 (over half the population of the Hsiang) had been brought to the verge of starvation by the extortions of the landlords. These revelations aroused the wrath of the masses to the point where they were ready to take action to destroy the power of the landlord class.

- E N D -

- 3 -

RESTRICTED